THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government and UNICEF have entered into a programme of cooperation for the years 2003—07 to reduce infant and maternal mortality and protect children and adolescents from HIV/AIDS.

(b) An amount of US $ 400 million has been allocated by UNICEF for the period 2003—07 to implement the Master Plan of Operations *inter-alia* protection of children from HIV/AIDS.

(c) The Government of India–UNICEF Master Plan of Operations for the period 2003-07 has been signed on 13 January, 2003. The States that will be benefited in the first instance include: Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Nagaland, Manipur, Bihar, U.P., Rajasthan, Orissa, Assam, West Bengal, Gujarat and Goa.

(d) The proposed programmes will be implemented in the fields of education, health, water and sanitation, child development and nutrition, advocacy, programme for children in difficult circumstances and Disability and for elimination of child labour. Protection to children from HIV/AIDS and support to integrated child development services are also included in the programme.

India's share in bio-medicine in global market

3903. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite availability of huge biological resources in the country, India's share in the global market of bio-medicine is quite negligible;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) International market of Medicinal Plant Products is about US$ 62 billion per year, out of which Indian share is Rs. 616.52 crores.

(c) The following steps have been taken to increase exports

1. The Government has established National Medicinal Plant Board for integrated development of medicinal plant sector.

2. Department of Biotechnology has also support research and development project on medicinal and aromatic plants used in the country.

3. Government is also supporting industry to participate in International Trade Fairs to exhibit their products.

4. Labelling provisions have been relaxed.

5. Laboratory facilities are being expanded.

6. Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) have been notified.

7. Market survey has been supported.

World Commission on Macro-economics and Health

3903. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Chapter of the World Commission on Macro-economics and Health has been formally launched on 9th January, 2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Director of Earth Institute, Columbia University and Advisor to UN Secretary General have pointed out that India needs to spend more on health and the Commission would help Indian States to get more financial resources from the international agencies;

(d) whether the Finance Ministry has been approached to provide required funds; and

(e) whether any assurance has been given by the Finance Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The National Commission on Macro-economics and Health (NCMH), was formally launched by the Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare on 9th January, 2003. Prof. Jeffrrey Sachs, Chairman, W.H.O. Commission on Macro-economics and Health and Special Advisor to the UN Secretary General was the Guest of Honour. The proposed Commission is to be jointly chaired by Union Ministers of Finance and Health and Family Welfare. Necessary formalities to set up the proposed NCMH are under finalization.